

Soccer field takes Howington's name



President Rick Rogers (L) presents former dean Arthur Howington with a plaque marking the Aug. 26 dedication of Howington Field.

The hardest part of the day, the element truly impossible to schedule, was the victory of the Lady Buccaneers over Hinds Community College on Aug. 26.

Everything else had been taken care of: the incredibly smooth playing surface, a large and enthusiastic crowd, refreshments waiting under the tent on a sizzling afternoon.

And the team rose to the occasion. In a tough defensive struggle, the Bucs finally scored a goal in the second half and held on to win the game 1-0 on dedication day.

**See Howington
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Fredd's getting that look...



Dr. Cordell Wynn, special assistant to the president, has a new title he just loves: project director for the renovation of the administration building on the Fredd campus. Dr. Wynn reports the project is coming along smoothly with an unveiling and an open-house still scheduled for February. The former Stillman president says his boss, Dr. Rick Rogers, was always cooperative about the idea of renovating the building "but he just fell in love with the idea" after Wynn conceived of the idea of visually linking Fredd to the Martin campus with the Shelton trademark green dome. "Now I think he is even more excited than I am!" Wynn said.

Original editor remembers the good ol' days



Founding Courier editor Stuart Mason chats with his sister Lori Swindle of the personnel office during his recent visit to Shelton.

First of two parts

By Bo Carver

With the clicking of a single typewriter in a small room on the Shelton State Community College campus on Skyland Boulevard in the summer of 1981, Stuart Mason helped shape the *Courier* into the newspaper tabloid it is today. Mason, who had served as the editor and sports editor of Tuscaloosa County High's student newspaper,

**See Mason
Page 2**

Shelton holds first Constitution Day program



Glinda Blackshear, the Shelton Singers and one of the original signers of the Constitution helped mark the day on Sept. 15

The college's first-ever Constitution and Citizenship Day program got under way Thursday, Sept. 15 in, literally, a very theatrical way.

While the assembled anticipated a round of speeches and patriotic songs, they got, at first, a town-crier dressed in full colonial regalia announcing the commemoration of the 216th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution.

Librarian Glen Johnson has taken many roles for Theatre Tuscaloosa, but has probably never played one in the atrium. This one, nevertheless, got the festivities off on a dramatic footing. That was followed by music instructors Syble Coats on keyboard and Glinda Blackshear with the

**See Ceremonies
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Inside The Courier

- Susie and Buckaroo escape Katrina, thinking they'll be heading right back to N.O. . . . page 3
- Series outlining student life at Shelton. . . page 6
- "Unsophisticated boor" loves Patsy Cline. . . page 7



Mason

From Page 1

was given a scholarship by former Dean Tom Umphrey to be the editor of the fledgling Shelton State publication, which had produced only one introductory edition before Mason's arrival.

"When I arrived, we didn't have a staff," Mason said.

"I think I wrote almost all of the stories in the first issue that came out during the summer semester, designed the entire section and pasted up all the copy down at *The Tuscaloosa News*.

"Fortunately, Jim Kenny started teaching a mass communications course and became the newspaper's academic adviser. His assistance was invaluable. We started assigning some of the *Courier's* stories to my classmates in the mass communication course. Dean Humphrey Lee also had a couple of work study students assist with the newspaper."

During the five quarters Mason was at Shelton State before transferring to the University of Alabama, the newspaper published only once a semester.

"I feel like God really blessed me with the opportunity to attend Shelton State on a scholarship. It gave me a chance to really jump-start my journalism career," Mason said. "It is hard to believe it has been 24 years since I first attended Shelton. I recently visited the beautiful new campus for the first time. Wow, what a difference. Shelton certainly is not the same small community college that was established inside a former department store. It is also great to see the newspaper thriving again under the guidance of Dr. Kenny."

Mason has had quite a career in journalism since the summer of 1981 when he began working on the *Courier*. After attending Shelton for two years, Mason went on to the University of Alabama where he was given the two-year Chevron Journalism-Business Writing scholarship and graduated in 1984.

During the time Mason was in college, he worked for the *Tuscaloosa News* as

a sports correspondent covering mostly high school and Park and Recreation Authority events, but also some Alabama, Livingston University (now West Alabama) and Stillman College games. Mason's first full-time job after college was at the *Alabama Journal* in Montgomery as a news side copy editor and page designer. After nearly a year in Montgomery, Mason was hired as the sports editor of the *Moulton Advertiser* in Moulton, Ala., where the Alabama Press Association awarded Mason with a first-place award for Best Local Sports Columnist and the *Advertiser* as the Best Sports Page among weekly newspapers.

In September 1986, Mason was hired by *The Anniston Star* as a sports writer where he was the Jacksonville State University football beat writer, covered NASCAR at Talladega Superspeedway and handled the high school sports coverage. He also covered a few Atlanta Braves games, including Baseball Hall of Fame knuckler Phil Niekro's farewell game with the Braves.

Mason moved back to Tuscaloosa in 1989 where he worked as the high school sports beat writer for *The Tuscaloosa News* until the summer of 1991 when Mason decided to take his career in another direction.

"I have worked at six newspapers, but I learned more from the one that got away," Mason said. "When I was working at *The Tuscaloosa News*, I realized I needed a change. *The Tampa Tribune* had two openings — one as a sports writer in one of its bureaus and one as a sports copy editor and page designer. When I worked at the smaller newspapers in Alabama, I handled both jobs.

"The *Tribune*, though, really was interested in me more as the sports copy editor/page designer position and the job was between a part-timer on staff and me.

When they asked me which of the two positions I preferred, I told them I would be happy with either

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Shelton State Courier

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Matt Celozzi
Assistant Editor
Bo Carver
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Business Manager
Matt Celozzi

The *Shelton State Courier* is a campus newspaper, written and produced with the help of students.

Among other functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression, and all students are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working

with the students in the production of this paper.

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

The *Courier* is an equal opportunity employer and student organization. All students are encouraged to participate.

one. Wrong answer. They hired the other guy, because they were worried if they hired me as a desk guy and I missed writing, I would leave and they would be forced to find someone else. The sports managing editor, Paul Smith, then gave me some career-shifting advice: Writers came a dime a dozen, but copy editors and desk people were in short supply. If I ever wanted to get into management, then the sports desk was the route

to go."

This led to Stuart accepting a sports desk job with *The Stuart News* located in none other than Stuart, Fla., while, ironically, living in the Stuart Apartments for about a year. He obviously fit right in. *The Stuart News* circulation increased from 35,000 to 50,000 during the 2 1/2 years Mason worked in Stuart.

Besides designing the front of the sports section five days a week, Mason

also coordinated *The Stuart News's* special sections coverage. In 1993, *The Stuart News* won the Florida Press Association first-place award among small daily newspapers for its baseball and football special sections.

Next issue Stuart Mason talks about some surprising developments in the journalism profession.

It wasn't *easy*, but Buckaroo and I escaped Katrina

Recent Shelton graduate Alice "Susie" Johnson had taken her stellar theatre education to the University of New Orleans. But Katrina has forced her into an unscheduled return. This is her story so far...

By Susie Johnson

The Saturday after the first week of school started off as a normal day. I made my morning coffee, thought about my afternoon plans, and cleaned up my apartment.

As I was cleaning the sink, my phone rang. It was my boyfriend; he told me there was a hurricane coming. Now, there is one thing you must understand: my boyfriend is panicky about weather. It truly scares him to the core. I told him to calm down. How could there be a storm on its way? The sun was out and it was a beautiful morning.

After we said our good-byes, I wondered if another storm could be heading for New Orleans. We had just had a hurricane in July and I wasn't happy about dealing with another one this soon. I checked the weather on Yahoo.com: nothing. The weather looked absolutely normal. I then checked the website for New Orleans' newspaper, *The Times Picayune*. There it was, a very small article about some bad weather that was soon to hit New Orleans. I called my boyfriend back and asked where I could get the weather information he had gotten. He sent me to a local TV news website. All that it had was an article about a hurricane that might hit us. I was confused; where was the straightforward information about what was really going on?

For the next 12 hours, I would check the Internet every thirty minutes. The information kept getting worse and worse. I was hesitant to leave, because the last two times I evacuated, nothing happened, not even a rain shower. I really didn't want to have to load up my Ford Ranger with my homework, my laundry, and my cat, Buckaroo, take a four hour drive through

Mississippi, and then spend a few days at my parents' house in Greensboro. It just didn't seem like a serious enough storm for all that.

At 10 p.m., I made the choice to leave New Orleans. The information was getting too serious to ignore. From what I could understand about the weather maps, the hurricane was heading right for New Orleans. I thought it would be best to leave and avoid the power going out on me. August in New Orleans is no time to be without air conditioning, or at least a box fan. I really didn't want to deal with the power, plus I got a few days off from school, so it appeared to be the best plan.

I decided to leave at 3 a.m. on Sunday. In theory, I was going to avoid the crowds. So in the middle of the night, I set out for the highway with my laundry and Buckaroo. Six hours later, I was still on a Louisiana highway. I should have been in Greensboro, but all the traffic in New Orleans was rerouted to Baton Rouge.

Once I had calmed down and after much time on my cell phone to my boyfriend's father getting directions, I got to the outskirts of Louisiana. By that time, I was really mad. It was an awful situation. I had the worst luck. Why was this happening to me? Why did I have to get lost? I eventually got my father on the phone, and, as he looked at the map and called highway numbers out, I finally got on a highway in Mississippi that I recognized. But my luck would still not return. There was more traffic and lots of it: panic attack number two. I cursed the storm for ruining my day and New Orleans for making me leave. It just wasn't worth it.

After much more driving, a few more panic attacks, and the total mental breakdown of my cat, I was in Greensboro. I have never been so happy to be there, but I think I was just happy to finally get out of my truck. I didn't even bother to check on the weather in New Orleans. I knew that it would be fine.

That Monday, I took my father to a doctor's appoint-

ment in Northport, never thinking about New Orleans for a second. In the waiting room, the television was on and tuned into a report on the city. It didn't seem good. All of the footage of New Orleans being ravaged was too much to take. I left the office and sat out in the car



near tears until my father finished. By that point I started thinking the weather might be a bit more serious than I originally thought.

For the next few days, I did what everyone else in the country did: just stared in shock at the disaster afflicting New Orleans. I

cannot even begin to explain to another person how it feels to watch your town being torn apart before your very eyes. I felt as if my heart was being ripped out. This was New Orleans, my New Orleans, the town that care forgot—immortalized in countless books, songs, movies, poems, and plays. This can't be happening; this shouldn't be happening. I didn't want to believe what was going on and I tried to ignore it. I tried, until reports about the treatment of those stuck in the Superdome came to the fore.

How could the state of Louisiana, the United States government, and the country just watch the horrors that were occurring? Why was their luck so bad? What was this happening to them? Why didn't someone in the government try to get these people out? The reports of flooding in New Orleans depressed me but not as much as the reports of those stuck in the Superdome and in the city. They made me furious. I couldn't grasp how this happened. My problems

were nothing.

The problem in the Superdome was serious. The looting was serious. It wasn't just material things getting lost; it was people's actual lives. I was ashamed of how some of my fellow citizens responded by looting. I was completely appalled at their behavior. I wanted to do something, fix the town, rescue those in the Superdome and those stuck on their roofs with no food or water.

But I couldn't. I felt hopeless. What could I do? I had nothing to offer anyone. I knew I couldn't fix New Orleans, no matter how badly I wanted to. So I made myself have hope. Hope for New Orleans and her people. Hope for those who couldn't or didn't want to leave. Hope that businesses and tourists will populate our streets once again. Hope that the mayor will get the city back to her feet. Hope that old New Orleans isn't gone forever.

Hope that she is just temporarily closed.

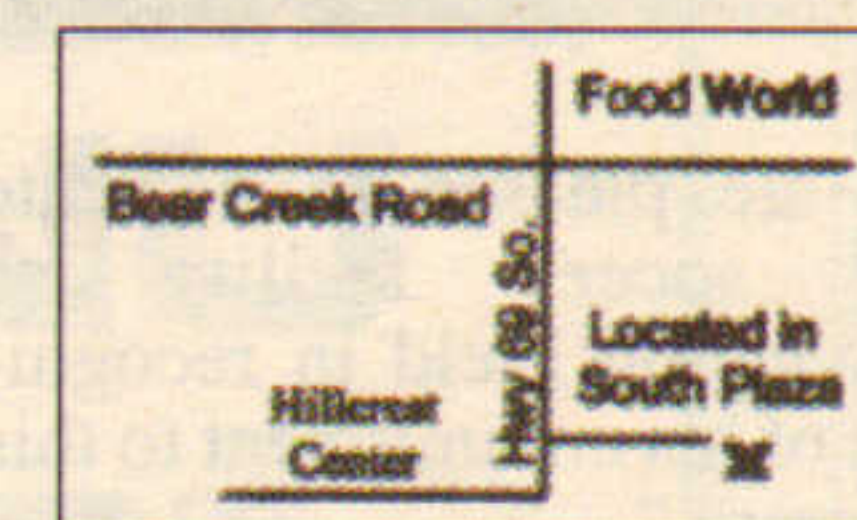
Shear Artistry



Ready to share their "shear artistry" are (Back L-R) Sondra Keeton, Adrienne Gann, Melonie Foley, (Front L-R) Brandi Ledbetter, Ashley Lowery, Mary Katherine Price.

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Marston C. Martin, O.D.

344-5111

Howington cont'd from Page 1

It was a fitting development for a sports program that has held its own against the odds for a number of years. Founded by Dr. Arthur Howington in 1997, the soccer team, coincidentally, won its 50th game the day of the field dedication.

Howington has been a true pioneer and force in local and state soccer, coaching not only the Shelton team, but at Holy Spirit High as well. That team won the 1A-4A championship this year.

President Rogers said at the dedication, "Arthur was a pioneer in 1997 as Shelton State was the only community college in Alabama with a women's soccer program.

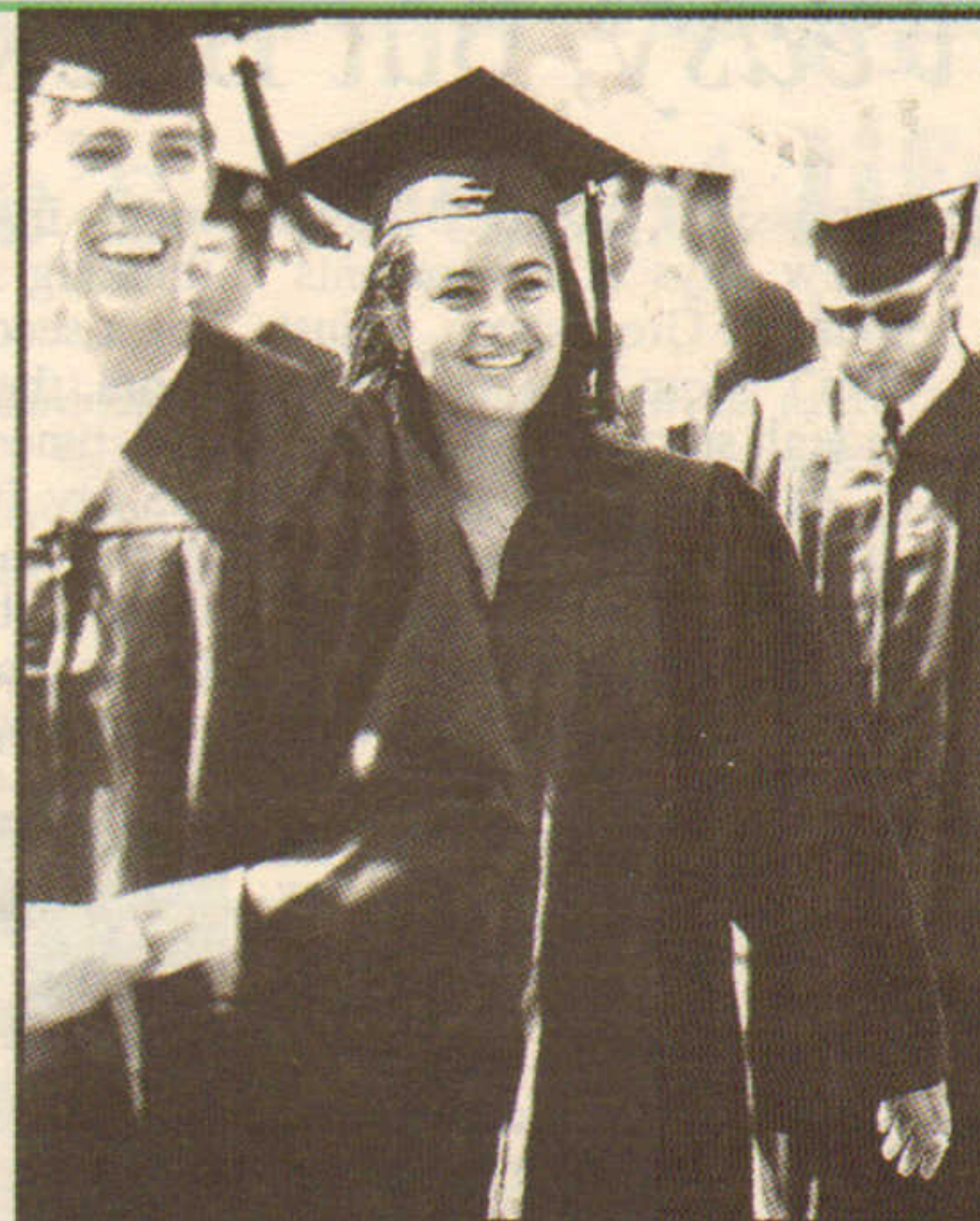
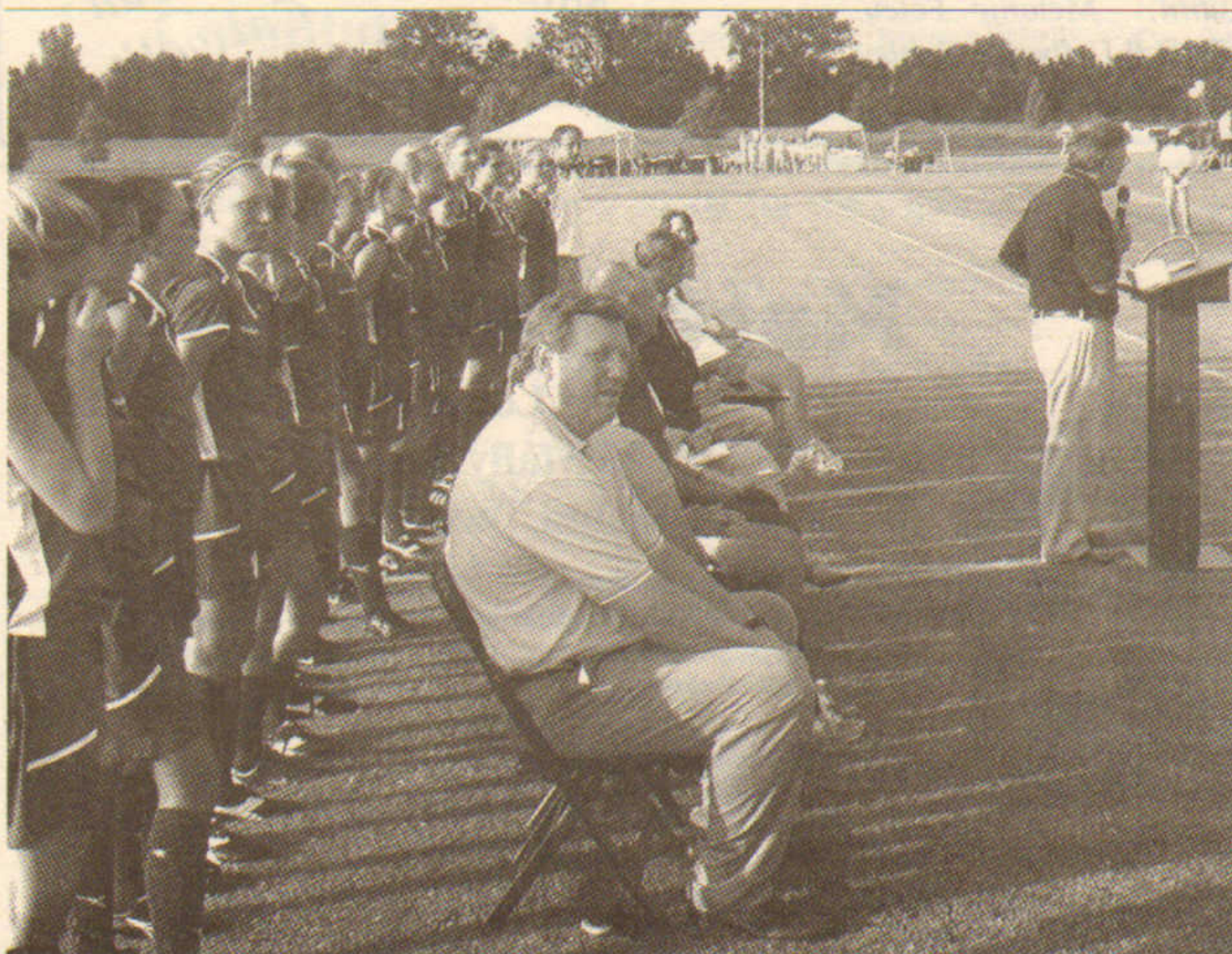


The first goal of the season by Shelton secured the win on the day dedicating Howington Field.



We are pleased to dedicate our soccer facility as Howington Field in recognition of his commitment to this program."

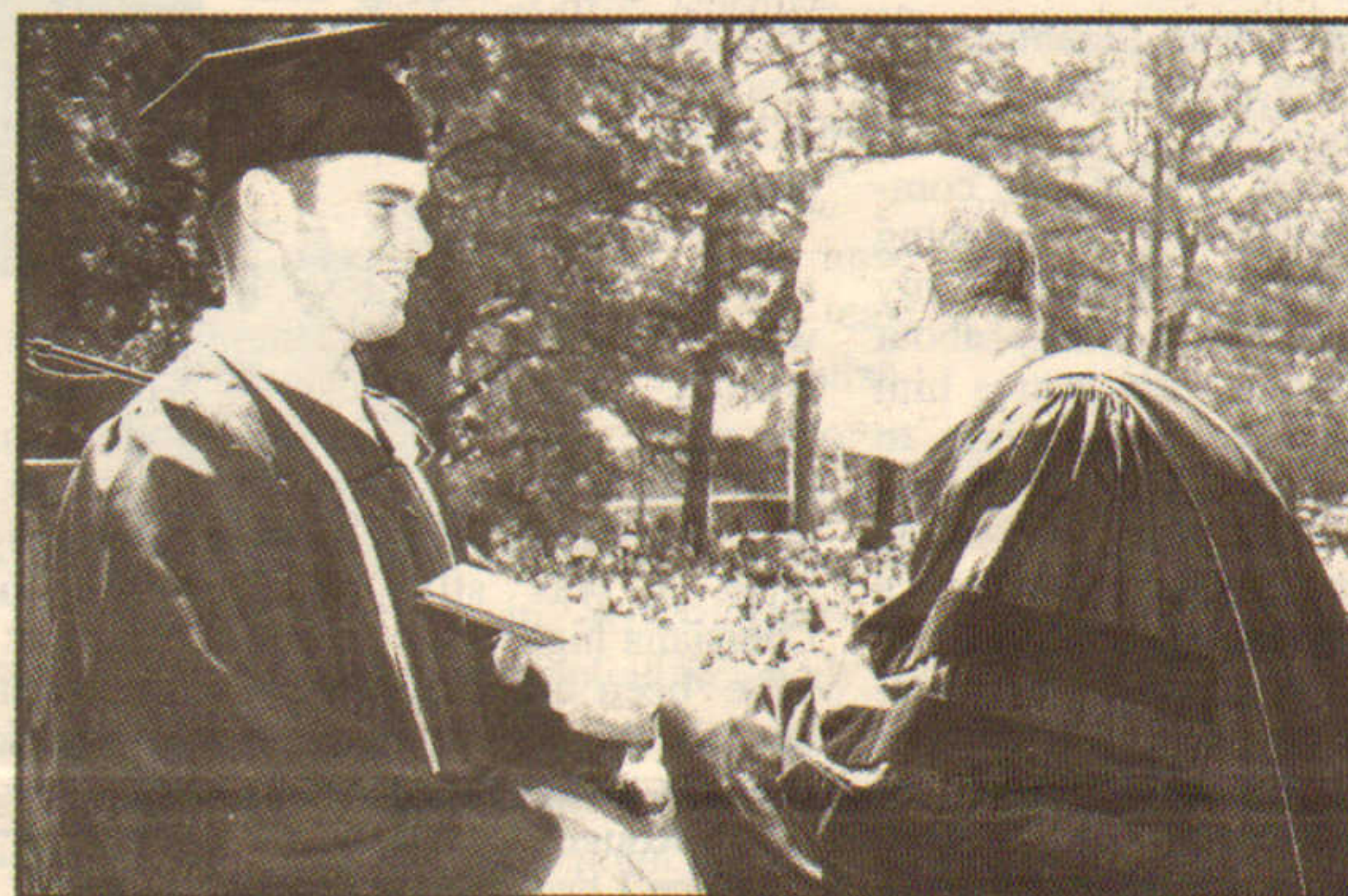
On hand celebrating the field dedication were (L-R) President Rick Rogers, Dr. Arthur Howington, Jennifer Crumby, Dean Karen Van Luvender, State School Board Chair Sandra Ray and Channing Howington.



Commencement at Flowerhill, spring 2004

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Shelton sings its way to Carnegie Hall

On May 31, 11 members of the Shelton Singers had the thrill of performing in Carnegie Hall in New York City. Director Glinda Blackshear and Assistant Director Mark Brown both agreed that the concert of the Faure Requiem with chamber orchestra, professional soloists, and a choir of 250 singers was incredibly moving. The singers who were invited to be a part of this special event were from two-year colleges across the nation with a reputation for choral excellence.

Mrs. Blackshear was especially delighted to work under the baton of Dr. Bruce Rogers, whose choral program at Mt. San Antonio Community College in California is recognized as the best two-year college program in the nation. "I had heard the Mt. San Antonio Singers perform at National Conventions of the American Choral Directors Association and was amazed that Dr. Rogers could achieve such superior performances with personnel that changed every two years", Blackshear said. I was eager to learn his secrets for success and I was not disappointed.

Shelton students

rehearsed for three hours each day, which left plenty of time for attending Broadway shows, shopping in China Town, and seeing the sights of New York. The students experienced harrowing taxi rides and subway trips and got autographs from some Broadway stars. They also discovered that eating in New York City can be very expensive. Following the concert itself, the performers were treated to a buffet cruise around the island of Manhattan which circled the Statue of Liberty.

Musically, the students were challenged to go beyond the notes and words on the page to create a work of beauty which communicated with the audience. Many of them said the experience was life-changing and that their whole approach to choral singing would never be the same. Shelton Singers who participated were Barry Bonner, Erin Davis, April Hobdy, Sarah Hunnicutt, Michaelyn Kannapel, Brittany Norris, Anna Samaniego, Jonathan Pate, and Marquita Poe.

Building on the experiences of these students, the Shelton Singers of 2005-2006 are expected to be better than ever

Interested in the arts?

The *Courier* December edition is called *Maxwell's Crossing* and it features the fiction, poetry and visual art of the Shelton family. If you are interested in an editorial position, contact Jim Kenny, publisher or Matt Celozzi, editor at 391-2406 or stop by the *Courier* office in room 2319.

K.P.S. Kamath to give M.L.K. lecture Sept. 30

Dr. K.P.S. Kamath will be presenting a program at Shelton State entitled "Nonviolent Techniques in the 21st. Century." It is scheduled for Friday, September 30, in the D Rooms, and is part of the Martin Luther King, Jr., 2005 Distinguished Lecture Series. Dr. Kamath is a physician by profession and an active public speaker. He has offered numerous seminars on stress management and human rights issues. He embraces the ideals of Mahatma Ghandi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and is a firm believer in applying the principles of these great leaders to daily life.



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Served Monday thru Friday 11am to 2pm

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Get on Board Days, Phi Theta Kappa are key parts of college's student life

By Bo Carver

Welcome to Shelton State Community College. "Okay," you might say, "but now what?" Well you could have taken advantage of "Get on Board Days" and some of you did. If you're still looking around for what you want to do here at Shelton, this will be the first article of a series on what students should know about life here.

Shelton State Community College offers a wide range of organizations to choose from. Curious about what they are?

Organizations:

Alumni Association
Ambassadors
Athletic Team Council
Circle K
Corsair Fencing Club
Ecology Club
Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Phi Theta Kappa
Shelton State Association of Nursing Students
Shelton State Association of Practical Nursing Students
Student Action Team
The Shelton State Courier
Student Publications

Curious about Athletics?
Intercollegiate Sports:
Baseball
Softball
Soccer
Men's and Women's

Basketball
Cheerleading
Dance Team

The *Courier* discussed student organizations with the assistant dean of Student Services, Susan Mohun. She said that the college would always like more student involvement, but because Shelton is a commuter school, it's difficult. She was happy to tell me that, in the seven years she's been working at Shelton, attendance at athletic functions has grown dramatically.

She said, "Anything students want, we'd like to support."

Shelton has invested in its students by adding Cybucs Café on the second floor, and the learning center has also experienced impressive upgrades.

Mrs. Mohun also discussed what students in their first semester might need to know. "Employees in our counseling center are here to help students reach goals while here at Shelton," she said. "Take advantage of small class size and develop a relationship with the faculty."

Mohun also shared a few misconceptions students have when coming to

Shelton. She said that some students don't believe the faculty is demanding. Also a lot of students don't believe the technical program is a good choice but in reality it's an excellent choice.

Be it an athletic program or a student publication such as the *Courier*, students are encouraged to participate in one of the many extracurricular activities at Shelton

education with more than 1.5 million members and 1,200 chapters. You too can become a part of this time honored and prestigious organization. They will soon be sending out invitations to students that are eligible to become members of the Alpha Epsilon Iota Chapter of PTK. Eligibility is based primarily upon academic achievement.

To be eligible:

1. You must be currently enrolled in Shelton State Community College
2. You must have completed at least 12 hours of coursework leading to an associate degree program (Associate in Art/Science or Applied Science)

3. You must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher

4. You must enjoy full rights of citizenship in your country.

If you believe you are eligible you may pick up an application in our office (Room 2408). If no one is available there are some outside the door. Even if you

receive an invitation these applications must be completed and the one time \$65 membership fee collected. The membership fee covers your lifetime membership for local, regional and international affiliation. PTK will have an orientation for all students interested in becoming a member of PTK.

PTK needs students who would like to become involved to step up and consider being one of the officers for the next school year. If you are interested please contact Claire Brock extension 391-3918, Room 2408 or e-mail: cbrock@shelton-state.edu.

Phi Theta Kappa offers numerous scholarship opportunities for PTK members only. All of the major four year institutions in Alabama and most other states offer good transfer scholarship opportunities for PTK members only. If you plan to further your education and like to be involved in service projects, leadership and fellowship you should give PTK serious consideration.



PTK advisor Claire Brock was pleased with the turnout of vendors and organization and this years get on board days

State. This month, the *Courier* examines P.T.K.

Phi Theta Kappa's mission is to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students and to provide opportunities for individual growth and development through participation in honors, leadership, service and fellowship programming. Today, Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher

Constitution

from Page 1

er Bert Bank, a former Alabama senator, took the podium the crowd seemed in the proper mood for some patriotic contemplations.

As he did in World War II, Bank did not shrink from the task at hand. Recalling the gallant efforts of America's soldiers, Bank called to duty and country all those in attendance.

Immediately following Bank's presentation, a "hot-topics" discussion titled "Mom and Dad vs. Uncle Sam: Parental Rights and Government Intervention" took place. The discussion centered on a CNN clip which reported a controversy concerning what to teach and not teach in schools. Both the instructors and the students in attendance were caught up in the lively debate.

After that a showing of the film *A More Perfect Union* took place. The film is a costume drama depicting the personalities and debates surrounding the creation of our Constitution.

Attendees look forward to next year's Constitution Day.

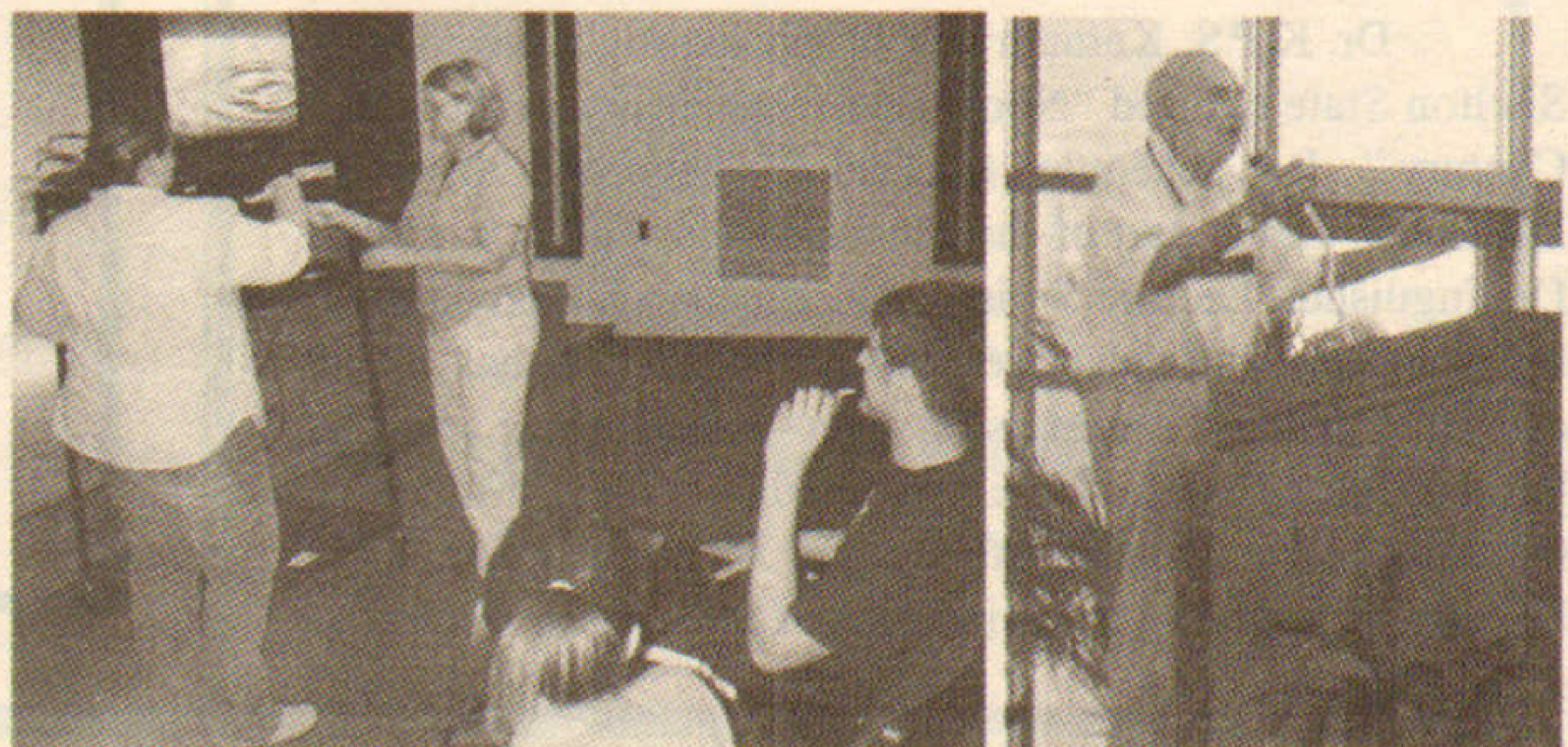
Shelton Singers presenting "We the People."

By the time keynote speaker

Scenes from Constitution Day

A good crowd was on hand to hear former State Senator Bert Bank (R and below R).

After that, Phi Theta Kappa led a discussion of rights to privacy based on a segment from Cable News Network. (Below L)



Terrific Tuesday Concert Series**September 27:**

Shelton State Jazz Ensemble, Dr. Alan Blackshear, director; Bean Brown Theatre

October 4:

Musicale, featuring Shelton State music students and ensembles

October 11:

Piano Ensemble Featuring Shelton State piano students Syble Coats, director

October 18:

Jerry Welker, French horn
University of Alabama graduate student

October 25:

Chamber program
Mark Williams, bassoon & Amanda Penick, piano
University of Alabama faculty

November 1:

Piano program
Featuring students of Amanda Penick

November 8:

Shelton State Jazz Ensemble
Dr. Alan Blackshear, director
Bean Brown Theatre

November 15:

Less is More
University of Alabama Chamber Ensemble
Maggie Synder, director

November 29:

Musicale
Featuring Shelton State music students and ensembles

December 6:

Christmas Tree Lighting
SSCC Music Department
Atrium

Additional Concerts**November 8: Fall Concert**

Shelton Singers, Glinda Blackshear, director
Shelton State Jazz Band, Dr. Alan Blackshear, director
Bean Brown Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

December: Christmas Concert

Shelton Singers, Glinda Blackshear, director
Shelton State Jazz Band, Dr. Alan Blackshear, director
Atrium, 7:30 p.m.

Patsy Cline wins new theatre fan

By Matt Celozzi, *Courier* editor

I have to admit, I've never been a big fan of the theatre. It's not because I have no appreciation for the arts, though I've been accused of far worse. I think I can recall the term "unsophisticated boor" being lobbed in my direction. And it's not that I don't respect drama as a legitimate form of artistic expression, because I certainly do. It's just that I've been spoiled by some of our newest forms of media, e.g., television and movies. TV is so much easier and requires far less thinking on my part. But in spite of all this, I still decided to see Theatre Tuscaloosa's latest production *Always Patsy Cline*, and I was not disappointed. I would recommend this play to one and all.

This is the third time around for *Always* at Theatre Tuscaloosa. After performing the show two years in a row, it had not returned to the stage since 2001, despite much popular demand.

The play tells the story of Louise Seger, a Houston housewife who closely monitors Patsy Cline's rise to fame. After meeting the singer at a local performance, the two strike up an interesting friendship and exchange correspondence for the next couple of years until Cline's untimely death at the age 30 in a 1963 plane crash.

This time around, the part of *Patsy Cline* is played to perfection by U. of A. student Sara Catherine Thomason, who captures the spirit of Cline's voice so well you could swear you were really watching her perform at the Grand Ole Opry. Local stage veteran Laura Carr reprises her role as Louise. Carr is a master comedienne, and kept the viewers in stitches throughout. Her interaction with the audience was also greatly enjoyed. All of Patsy's on-stage performances are backed up by a live band that does an excellent job as well, seamlessly segueing from slow ballads to faster honky-tonk crowd pleasers. The lighting and sound quality were also flawless, lending further evidence to the professionalism exhibited by the Theatre staff.

So now, after seeing *Always Patsy Cline*, I can admit that live theatre isn't so bad after all. In fact, I'm sure I'll see Theatre Tuscaloosa's next production. After all, one can never consume too much art. I might even take a trip to a museum or read some poetry. But then again, there's always TV.

Always Patsy Cline continues at the Bean-Brown Theatre at Shelton State through Sept. 25. Shelton students can purchase tickets for \$6 at the box office or by calling 391-2277.

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FINAL NOTICE HURRY!

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For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction



Katrina did her worst to tear up the southeast, including Tuscaloosa (L) but the hurricane also brought out the best in people. Shelton employees donated thousands of dollars and hundreds of volunteer hours. Carole Hill's sociology classes collected and/or purchased hundreds of dollars worth of food and baby items (R) for the relief effort.

On hand to collect these items was Karen Thompson of Temporary Emergency Relief Services of Tuscaloosa County. Thompson was very grateful for the generosity of Shelton students and others from the community, but she worried aloud about what the outpouring of support for Katrina's victims will do to donations to the United Way, the program which sponsors her agency. "I hope people realize we are the first line of defense when these tragedies happen."



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